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SUBJECT: GERMANY H1N1 FLU UPDATE: 691 CONFIRMED CASES

REF: A) Berlin 828, B) Berlin 819 and previous.

¶1. (SBU) SUMMARY: The number of H1N1 infections in Germany rose by 50 cases to a total of 691 on July 10. Media reports indicate first case of H1N1 in the Federal State of Saarland. END SUMMARY.

¶2. (SBU) The National Reference Center for Influenza at the Robert Koch Institute (RKI) announced in its press briefing July 10 a total of 50 new laboratory-confirmed cases of H1N1. This increases the total number of virus cases in Germany to 691. New cases were distributed among the federal states as follows: Bavaria (20), North Rhine-Westphalia (8), Baden-Wuerttemberg (8), Rhineland-Palatinate (5), Berlin (4), Schleswig-Holstein (3), Bremen (1), and Thuringia (1).

¶3. (SBU) North Rhine-Westphalia remains the state with the highest number of virus cases among all German states with a total of 315, followed by Baden-Wuerttemberg (94) and Bavaria (87 cases). Over half (381) of all confirmed infections in Germany have resulted from domestic transmission.

First case of H1N1 in the Federal State of Saarland

¶4. (SBU) To date, the Federal State of Saarland remains the only state without confirmed virus cases. However, media reports indicate a 24-year old woman from Saarland to be infected with the virus. She returned from a trip to Mallorca (Spain) with flu-like symptoms and was tested positive for the virus. However, RKI has not confirmed this case.

Additional school closures

¶5. (SBU) Media reported July 9 that several schools in Bavaria were closed due to confirmed H1N1 infections of students. A school in Markt Schwaben was closed on Thursday and Friday after two 15-year old students were tested positive for the virus. In addition, seven graders from another school in Neufarn were sent home on Wednesday after the virus was

confirmed in a 13-year old student. The student reportedly caught the virus from his father who returned from a trip to Chile and was confirmed to have the virus.

POLLARD